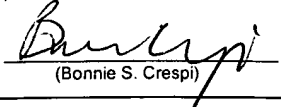
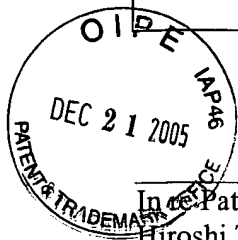


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV 756263761 US, in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: December 21, 2005 Signature: 

(Bonnie S. Crespi)

Docket No.: 49761(70868)  
(PATENT)



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re: Patent Application of:  
Hiroshi Tanaka et al.

Application No.: 09/618,537

Confirmation No.: 8668

Filed: July 18, 2000

Art Unit: 2622

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS

Examiner: C. S. Park

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97, Applicant(s) hereby make of record the following additional documents. A Form PTO SB/08 and a full copy of each of the documents required under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2) accompany this statement.

Applicant(s) have become aware of the following documents, cited in a Japanese Notification of Reason for Refusal issued September 7, 2004, during the prosecution of Japanese application no. 11-204826, which corresponds to the above referenced application, and in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97, hereby submit(s) these documents for the Examiner's consideration. These documents are cited on the enclosed Form PTO SB/08, and a copy of the Japanese Notification of Reason for Refusal and of each document required under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2) cited thereon are enclosed as well.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed together with a Request for Continued Examination and before the mailing of a first office action after the filing thereof (see 37 CFR 1.97(b)(4)). Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material


information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 04-1105, Reference No. 49761RCE (70868), Customer No. 21874. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: December 21, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Mark D. Russett

Registration No.: 41,281

EDWARDS ANGELL PALMER & DODGE LLP

P.O. Box 55874

Boston, Massachusetts 02205

Tel. (617) 439-4444

Fax (617) 439-4170

Attorneys/Agents For Applicant



PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

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|---|---|----|---|--------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO</b><br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>(Use as many sheets as necessary) |   |    |   | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                        |
|   |   |    |   | Application Number       | 09/618,537-Conf. #8668 |
|   |   |    |   | Filing Date              | July 18, 2000          |
|   |   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Hiroshi Tanaka         |
|   |   |    |   | Art Unit                 | 2622                   |
|   |   |    |   | Examiner Name            | C. S. Park             |
| Sheet   | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | 49761(70868)           |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |  |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       |                          | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
|                       |                          |  |                                |  |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |   |  |                                   |  |   |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*    | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   |  | Publication<br>Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |  |                                   |  |   |                |
|                          | BA                       | JP 51-35215   |  | 03/25/1976                        | Matsushita Electric IND. Co.<br>Ltd.               | Partial   |                |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                |
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| Examiner<br>Initials            | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
|                                 |                          |   |                |
|                                 |                          | Notification of Reason of Refusal dated September 7, 2004, Japanese Patent Application No. 11-204826  |                |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

|                       |  |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|